



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
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For More Information, Contact:
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Kitten Purchased at Amy's Pet Parade Tests Positive for Rabies
People Who May Have Been Exposed are Urged to Contact the Department of Health

Minot, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) and the State Veterinarian's Office are alerting the public that a kitten purchased from Amy's Pet Parade pet store in Minot has tested positive for rabies. The kitten was part of a litter of six that was anonymously dropped off at the pet store on August 29, 2014. All six kittens were put on display for sale starting August 29, 2014. The last kitten from the litter was sold this week.

The kitten was potentially infectious with rabies starting on August 22, 2014. Due to the possible exposure of rabies to the other kittens in the litter, the NDDoH is asking anyone who may have had exposure to saliva from these kittens by being bitten, licked or scratched since August 22 to call the North Dakota Department of Health after-hours number at 701.220.0819.

Rabies is a viral infection that affects mammals, including people. It can be transmitted through bites and saliva exposure to open cuts and wounds, or saliva contact with mucous membranes such as the eyes or mouth. The virus causes swelling of the brain and is almost always fatal. Rabies can be prevented by administering rabies vaccine after exposure.

For more information, the media may call Alicia Lepp, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.220.0819. For anyone with questions regarding other pets or animal exposures to these kittens, please contact Dr. Beth Carlson at 701.220.5194.

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